

June 24, 2010

**STATEMENT OF CHRISTOPHER HOLT
ON BEHALF OF
STEWARD HEALTH CARE SYSTEM LLC
AND
STEWARD ST. ANNE'S HOSPITAL CORPORATION**

Good evening. My name is Christopher Holt and I am pleased to be here in Fall River tonight on behalf of Steward Health Care System and Steward St. Anne's Hospital Corporation, the Determination of Need applicant. Dr. de la Torre has described the sale and what it will mean for St. Anne's Hospital, its excellent doctors, medical staff and other employees and especially the families in and around Fall River. I know your time is valuable, and I won't take more of it by repeating what Dr. de la Torre has already said. But I would like to take a minute to acknowledge that this process is an important one, not only for the residents of Fall River ^{and} the surrounding communities, but also because it represents a key step forward towards our shared goal of enabling this hospital, and the other Caritas Christi health care providers, to continue their role as vital elements of a strong community-based health care system. We share the Caritas leadership team's vision of community based health care and we are impressed with what the team has been able to accomplish in just a couple of years. We are looking forward to supporting this success by providing additional resources to help achieve their goal of providing high-quality, state-of-the-art health care in the communities where people actually live.

Tonight is the fourth public hearing on our application and, obviously, it is an important part of reviewing and understanding the overall transaction between Steward and Caritas. We realize that the process will place significant demands on the time and resources of lots of people, particularly the public officials who are with us here to tonight, and I would like to express our appreciation for the diligent efforts of the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Public Health, and their staffs, in undertaking a thoughtful review of this important opportunity. We look forward to working with you and your agencies as we move forward with the public review process. Before closing, I would also like to thank each of the community members who are with us tonight to share their views on our application. We are looking forward to hearing your valuable input, and we appreciate your participation in the process. Thank you for giving me the time to share these thoughts.